

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA

REGARDING

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF

A PACIFIC LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE PRECINCT

Preamble

1. This Memorandum of Understanding reflects the desire of the Government of Papua New Guinea (PNG) and the Government of Australia ('the Participants') to develop a long-term partnership, through which the Government of Australia will support the Government of PNG to develop the Pacific Leadership and Governance Precinct.
2. The Government of PNG has embarked on a positive program of change within the public service, and introduced a number of key reforms that will have a significant impact on those in current and future leadership and management roles. These changes present new challenges and opportunities to PNG's public service leaders and managers, and the reforms will require them to think in new ways, as well as develop new ways of working.
3. The Government of Australia is committed to supporting the efforts of the Government of PNG to transform the public service. A fresh approach is required to grow a new generation of ethical public service leaders with the capability and motivation to collaborate, lead and manage the delivery of equitable government services to all citizens of the country. Ethics and values based leadership and management will be a unifying focus for this collaboration.

Commitments

4. The Participants have jointly decided to create a precinct at the University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) that will centre on the creation of a School of Business and Public Policy at UPNG, and the strengthening of the Papua New Guinea Institute of Public Administration (PNGIPA) as the PNG School of Government (PNGSOG) to offer high quality skills training for PNG's public servants.

5. The existing UPNG School of Business Administration will be transformed into the School of Business and Public Policy, to provide a regionally recognised high quality forum for learning and academic research in public policy, leadership and good governance. It will provide programs which benefit from the collaboration of academics and practitioners in both the public and private sectors. It will offer courses at undergraduate and postgraduate level, as well as providing executive leadership programs in collaboration with the PNGIPA.
6. This approach builds on the recommendations of the Garnaut-Namaliu Report into Higher Education and commitments made between Australia and Papua New Guinea in the Joint Understanding on Further Bilateral Development Cooperation.
7. A complementary program of assistance with the PNGIPA will be developed to support the transition of the PNGIPA into the PNGSOG. The PNGSOG will provide short-course certificate, diploma and other related programs, consistent with the PNG Values and Ethics based Leadership and Management Capability Framework for public servants at the national, provincial, district and local levels of government. The support will complement efforts at UPNG and provide a logical learning pathway for public servants up to post graduate degree level.
8. The Government of Australia will provide technical assistance to support the development of administrative structures and curricula which set a new benchmark for quality in PNG. The Government of Australia will also provide assistance to the Government of PNG to support the construction of new facilities and the renovation of existing buildings to establish a modern and professional learning precinct.

9. The Government of Australia will support both UPNG and the PNGIPA to partner with local and international institutions to source a mix of quality local and international academic staff. Partnerships will also be forged with other PNG institutions, providing training to build public and private sector capabilities.
10. The Government of Australia will support UPNG and the PNGIPA to meet the quality and governance standards as prescribed in the PNG Higher Education (General Provisions) Act 2014.
11. A high level strategic oversight group will be created to oversee the strong and sustained political and financial commitment required to achieve quality outcomes that are needed from this effort. It will include senior representatives from the Government of Australia, the Government of PNG, UPNG, PNGIPA and the private sector.
12. This partnership will be a long-term and enduring collaboration. The Government of Australia is committed to help the Government of PNG develop a more capable and professional public service and this collaboration will underpin that commitment. While this commitment is a necessary component of the transformation of the PNG public service, it is not sufficient on its own to bring about the desired change. Transformation of the public service will require cultural change driven by senior executives and management across the PNG public service, with appropriate incentives to encourage ethical and values-based leadership and management.
13. This Memorandum of Understanding is not intended to create legally binding obligations, but is a statement of bona fide intent of the Participants. It sets forth the entire understanding of the Participants in respect of the collaboration contemplated. It may be amended only by a written instrument executed by the Participants.

14. This Memorandum of Understanding will take effect on the date it has been signed on behalf of both Participants and will remain in effect until terminated by either Government giving the other at least six months' written notice.

The foregoing represents the understandings reached between the Participants.

Signed in duplicate at on December 2014.

For the Government of Papua New
Guinea

For the Government of Australia

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The Hon Sir Dr. Puka I Temu,
KBE, CMG, MP
Minister for Public Service

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The Honourable Julie Bishop MP
Minister for Foreign Affairs

.....
The Hon Malakai Tabar MP
Minister for Higher Education,
Research, Science and Technology